

**Quarterly Activity Report
Post-Hurricane Reconstruction Project
CD/EPO/Division of International Health
January-March 2002 (Quarter 2, FY02)**

Guatemala

1. Highlights:

Main Activities:

- Epidemiological surveillance rounds and epidemiological seminars started in January 2002.

Major Accomplishments:

- The 2nd DDM cohort has started with 29 epidemiologists from the central, regional, and local levels with an introductory module on March 4, 2002. This program is an agreement between the Ministry of Health through its Department of Epidemiology and the University of San Carlos, supported by the CDC.

2. IR 1 - Health Information Systems

- No IR 1

3. IR2 – Increased Availability of Epidemiologists in the Region and Training of Other Level Health Workers by these Epidemiologists (FETP)

Indicator: Epidemiological seminars conducted by FETP trainees during 2002.

Progress:

- Seminars presented by two FETP trainees and discussed by DDM trainees, staff members of the Department of Epidemiology, control program units and National Laboratory at the MOH.

Results:

- Two seminars on vaccine preventable diseases and diarrheal diseases have been directed to achieve better surveillance standards within the Department of Epidemiology, program control units and National Laboratory at the MOH.

Futures Activities:

- First and second FETP cohorts to conduct monthly seminar on country's epidemiological health priorities.

Indicator: Weekly epidemiological surveillance rounds to analyze and discuss databases from national surveillance.

Progress:

- Epidemiological surveillance rounds presented and discussed by all FETP trainees.

Results:

- FETP trainees from both cohorts have conducted eleven epidemiological surveillance rounds.

Future Activities:

- FEPT trainees to continue conducting the weekly epidemiological surveillance rounds.

FETP OUTPUT DURING QUARTER	Initiated	Status
Outbreak Investigation		
Malaria outbreak of Falciparum en Paxcaman. Peten	Feb 20	Descriptive Epi: Mar 2
Food borne outbreak en San Andres Osuna, Escuintla	Mar 24	Analytical Epi: in Progress
Food borne outbreak in Patzún, Chimaltenango	Mar 27	Descriptive Epi in Progress
Surveillance studies		
Dengue Surveillance. National Health Laboratory	Jan 22	Discussion of Results and Data Interpretation
FETP AIDS Surveillance	Mar 7	Case Definition and Flux gram
Maternal mortality Surveillance System		
Planned Epi Project		
Prevalence of Leishmaniasis in Peten.	March 20	Draft of Protocol
Communications Products:		
Introduction of Malaria P. Falciparum in a rural village in Flores, Peten	Feb 15	Abstracts Presented to the Conference of TEPHINET, Madrid.
Evaluation of EPI coverage in a rural municipality in Chimaltenango	Feb 15	
Use of vaccination booklet and its influence in EPI coverage in a rural municipality in Santa Apolonia in Chimaltenango	Feb 15	
Food borne outbreak during a family dinner in a rural municipality in Chimaltenango	Feb 15	

Progress of essential activities

FETP I

Carlos Flores: 46,25% of activities completed
 Moises Mayen: 32,71% of activities completed
 Lorena Gobern: 37,92% of activities completed

FETP II

Rolando Otto Cano: 29,38% of activities completed
 Jorge Cifuentes: 25,00% of activities completed
 Elisa Barrios: 17,71% of activities completed

DDM:

Indicator: Opening and completion for the application and selection process for the 2nd DDM cohort.

Progress:

- In February, the selection process from all applicants for the 2nd DDM cohort was successfully completed.

Results:

- 29 participants have been selected from 50 applicants, based on their professional curricula, written examination and personal interviews.

Future activities:

- Plan, prepare, and organize the 1st DDM module.

Indicator: Implementation of core DDM modules program.

Progress:

- In March, the introductory module was implemented.

Results:

- DDM trainees have been introduced to the basic concepts and knowledge of epidemiology.

Future activities:

- Preparation to implement the second, third and fourth modules in the next quarter.

4. IR3 – Laboratory Rehabilitation

- No IR 3

5. IR4 – Community based interventions

- No IR 4

6. Important Administration Issues

- The Guatemala CDC Consultant, Dr. Augusto Lopez-Rodriguez, supported the FETP program activities in Nicaragua, from January 27 to February 9. Dr. Lopez-Rodriguez participated in the field investigation of Chronic Renal Failure in Chichigalpa, Department of Chinandega, as well as in an outbreak investigation of food borne disease in the Department of Chinandega. He also reviewed and provided feedback to the FETP trainees' field investigations.
- Proposal of a National HIV Surveillance System by the MERTU to USAID was finished and presented. Dr. Otto Cano, an FETP trainee, participated in the elaboration and presentation of the proposal. Dr. Cano will be in charge of the analysis of the information.

7. Other meetings

- Participation in the monthly DDM Project Technical Committee Meeting, which took place at the Faculty of Medicine in the San Carlos de Guatemala University.
- A two-day workshop to define and reach a consensus on AIDS case definition was held on March 7-8, in Antigua. Participants included FETP trainees, representatives from USAID, national AIDS program, CDC MERTU, national hospitals and the

Department of Epidemiology as well as other staff members from the Ministry of Health.

- A workshop on outbreak investigation and control, organized by CDC and PAHO with the participation of Dr. Rogelio Pineda from the Mexican Ministry of Health, was given to 20 Ministry of Health epidemiologists from the central, regional and local levels.

8. Visitors

- Robert Fontaine from CDC/DIH and Roger Dixon from USAID Washington were in Guatemala on March 7, 8 and 9 to discuss, with national authorities, and USAID Guatemala the possibilities of the project continuation after September 2002.
- Elmer Arias Chinchilla PHA of the Post Mitch Project reviewed the project budget, and worked with staff from USAID, US Embassy and Ministry of Health on Projects activities.
- Hany Atrash, from CDC Atlanta, visited Guatemala, to support and discuss several aspects about Maternal Mortality in Guatemala. Dr. Atrash in coordination with staff from the Ministry of Health worked a baseline for maternal mortality and presented it to epidemiologists at the national level.